

Lana Gordon, Secretary

Sam Brownback, Governor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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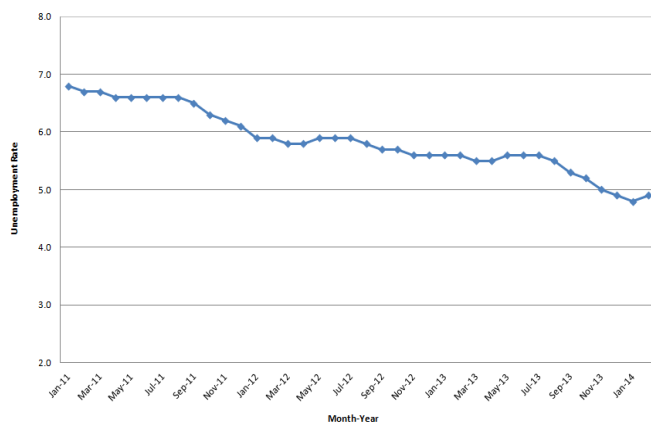
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Labor Market Report February 2014

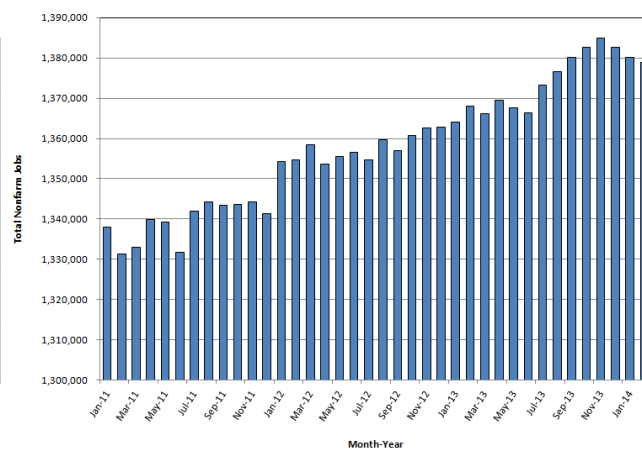
TOPEKA, Kan. – The Kansas Department of Labor (KDOL) reported the February seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.9 percent, up from 4.8 percent in January and down from 5.6 percent in February 2013.

“Another month of progress in the number of individuals employed coupled with a substantial decrease in unemployment claims is an encouraging sign of growth in the labor market,” said Lana Gordon, Secretary of Labor. “The state’s unemployment rate remains below 5 percent for the third straight month, the first time Kansas has seen this in over five years.”

**Unemployment Rate (Seasonally Adjusted)
Kansas
January 2011 to February 2014**



**Nonfarm Employment (Seasonally Adjusted)
Kansas
January 2011 to February 2014**



Kansas gained 12,200 seasonally adjusted private sector jobs, an increase of 1.1 percent since last February, and 11,000 nonfarm jobs, a 0.8 percent increase. Since last month, Kansas lost 2,300 private sector jobs, a decrease of 0.2 percent, and 1,200 nonfarm jobs, a decrease of 0.1 percent.

“The number of individuals employed has increased for five consecutive months, and likely cast a positive outlook on the labor market in terms of employment opportunities. The result is expansion of the labor force for the last three months as individuals are convinced that opportunities exist for them,” said Labor Economist, Efua Afful.

Not seasonally adjusted figures show Kansas gained 10,600 private sector and 10,700 nonfarm jobs since February 2013, or 1 and 0.8 percent respectively. Since last month, Kansas lost 2,800 private sector jobs, a 0.3 percent decrease, and gained 6,000 nonfarm jobs, an increase of 0.4 percent.

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 5.5 percent, up from 5.4 percent in January and down from 5.9 percent in February 2013.

There were 11,121 initial claims for unemployment benefits in February 2014, down from 15,709 in January 2014 and down from 16,387 one year ago. There were 100,071 continued claims in February 2014, down from 108,341 the previous month and down from 137,463 in February 2013. These numbers include all available programs.

Additional Kansas labor market information for February is available [here](#).

Information on procedures for producing Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) estimates is available on the BLS website [here](#) and procedures for producing Current Employment Statistics (CES) estimates is available on the BLS website [here](#).

PLEASE NOTE: The March Labor Report will be released on Thursday, April 17.

Audio clips of the Labor Market Report quotes by Secretary Lana Gordon and Labor Economist Efua Afful are available online courtesy of the Kansas Department of Labor.

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